

REMARKS

This Amendment is responsive to the Office Action dated May 17, 2005. Claims 1-9 were pending in the application. In the Office Action, claims 1-9 were rejected. In this Amendment, claims 1, 5 and 9 have been amended, and new claims 10-12 have been added. Claims 1-12 thus remain for consideration.

Applicants submit that the application is now in condition for allowance and request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections in light of the following remarks.

§102 and §103 Rejections

Claims 1, 2, 5, 6 and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Shore et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,760,767).

Claims 3, 4, 7 and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Shore in view of Ubillos (U.S. Patent No. 5,999,173).

Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 1, 5 and 9 are patentable over Shore and Ubillos.

Applicants' invention as recited in the independent claims is directed toward an information reproducing apparatus, an image display control method, and a storage medium storing a computer-readable program for implementing the method. Each of the claims recites setting at least one image signal start point and end point for editing recorded image signals, and storing the start and end points. Each of the claims further recites displaying "a menu of editing commands" and "an indication of available commands from among said editing commands," wherein "said indication is based on a state of said stored image signal start points and end points." Supporting disclosure for

applicants' menu feature can be found in the specification at, for example, Figs. 2-4 and accompanying description.

Neither Shore nor Ubillos discloses displaying a menu of editing commands and an indication of available commands from among said editing commands, wherein the indication is based on a state of stored image signal start and end points. Accordingly, applicants believe that claims 1, 5 and 9 are patentable over Shore and Ubillos \otimes taken either alone or in combination \otimes on at least this basis.

Dependent claims 2-4 and 6-8 depend respectively on independent claims 1 and 5. Since dependent claims inherit the limitations of their respective base claims, applicants believe that claims 2-4 and 6-8 are patentable for at least the same reasons discussed in connection with claims 1 and 5.

New Claims

New claims 10-12 have been added.

Applicants respectfully submit that all of the claims now pending in the application are in condition for allowance, which action is earnestly solicited. If any issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions, he/she is invited to telephone the undersigned at (908) 654-5000.

The Examiner is hereby authorized to charge any insufficient fees or credit any overpayment associated with the above-identified application to Deposit Account No. 12-1095.


Application No.: 09/808,852

Docket No.: SONYJP 3.0-146

The Examiner's consideration of this matter is gratefully acknowledged.

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Respectfully submitted,

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